

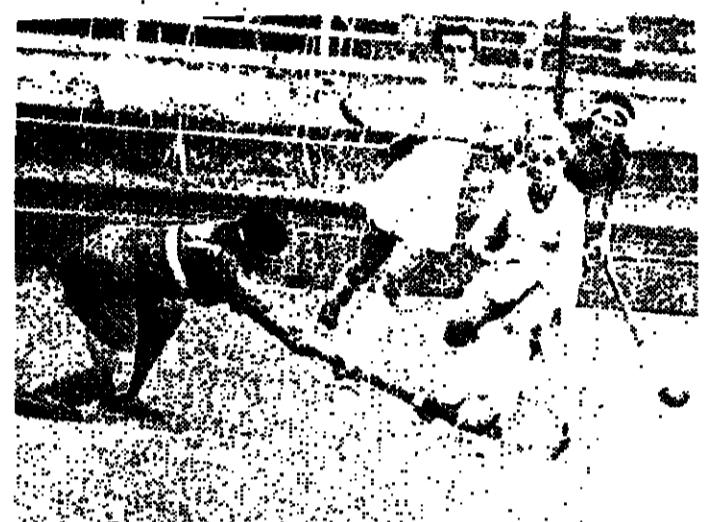
SPORTS

N. Chernoshteyev won all three final races to win the 500 cm class at the water motor championships in Hungary.

Telephoto MTI-TASS

Moscow Krylia Sovetov and Moscow Region Spartak played a 0-0 draw in a recent women's field hockey championship game.

Photo by Sergei Proshkov



DRAUGHTS: HALFWAY THROUGH

In the third round of the world title draughts match in Moscow between defending champion Olga Levina, from Kharkov, and challenger Yelena Altshul, from Minsk, the opponents rejected well-known opening moves, and only a drawless defence saved the titlist half a point.

In the next game the challenger took the initiative, gaining considerable advantage, but later made a tactical error and almost lost the game; disaster would have inevitably struck had champion not pre-empted a swooping exchange combination.

On the face of it the challenger's strategy seemed an

immensely risky one in the cliff-hanging fifth game but proved sound in the long run. The champion took some credit for having realized the need for timely defensive action, in which she exhibited much skill, but which still failed to pull her through.

In the next round the challenger had to go through severe trials, for the champion's onslaught seemed irresistible. The game lasted a whole six hours, with an ultimate draw in the 65th move. With the match halfway through now Yelena Altshul leads 3.5-2.5.

Veniamin GORODETSKY, Grandmaster

SOVIET AND BANGLADESH PLAYERS NECK-AND-NECK

Andrei Sokolov, of Moscow, continues unbroken his games at the junior chess championship in Copenhagen. In the sixth tour he beat the European champion, Kurt Hansen, of Denmark, on the 13th move. Sokolov and Mursud, of Bangladesh, have five points

each and are at the top of the championship which is held according to the Swiss system and consists of 13 tours. Five other players are only half a point behind.

In the next tour, Sokolov and Mursud are to play against each other.

Photos by A. Kodyukov

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LAWN TENNIS

Muscovite Yuliya Salnikova and Natalya Borodina, from Muscovite, will meet in all-Soviet women's singles finals at the European championship now taking place at Nyiregyháza, Hungary. In the semifinals Salnikova eliminated Skraska, of

Czechoslovakia, 5-7, 6-2 6-3, while Borodina disposed of Brzakova, also of Czechoslovakia, 2-6, 7-5, 6-2.

Konstantin Pugayev, Alexander Zverev and Vadim Bojsov, all of the USSR, and Jaroslav Navrátil, of Czechoslovakia, will clash in the semifinals.

FORECASTS ANEW

Colombian newspapers are again full of predictions as the world basketball elimination games have drawn to a close; but now experts go by the teams' present performance rather than their past achievement.

The USSR and Yugoslavia have admittedly put on the best show and are tipped to clash in the decisive game, which will

decide the two teams for the final tournament.

Like four years ago, other finalists are the USA and Canada. The USA has a talented line-up, which has so far performed inconsistently. Australia and Canada have also qualified.

Spain produced quite a furor, unseating the USA in a qualifying game and reaching the finals.

LONG LIVE SPORT AND PEACE!

A colourful closing ceremony of Central American and Caribbean Games, in which over 20 nations participated. Spectators who had crammed into the Pedro Marrero stadium in Havana were treated to a parade of the participants.

The men's event was the most strongly contested one. The USA were in the lead prior to the third event of the programme, while the USSR excelled in the most grueling "unexpected" event, which had come to the attention of the competitors only the night before it was due to be held.

The biggest credit goes to European top all-rounder Viktor Smolin, from Leningrad, who won the event with flawless performance. American Henry Haig was second and West German Manfred Strossenreiter, third. Nikolai Nikityuk, from Odessa, was the fourth, Khrush, and Juris Kalrys, from Vilnius, came ninth.

"Long live sport, long live peace!" is how Herman Rieckhoff, of Puerto Rico, IOC member and President of the Sports

Organization of Central America and Caribbean Nations, rounded off his address at the ceremony.

The hosts dominated in most events, and there were good performances from Mexico, Venezuela, Puerto Rico and other nations. Cuban weightlifter, Daniel Nunez, set a new world record—one of the major records registered at these games.

AEROBATIC SURPRISES

The USSR put a good performance at the 11th World Aerobic Championship at the Austrian resort of Bad Deutsch Altenburg, winning both the female and male team titles.

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MEETINGS IN CRIMEA

Soviet-Mongolian cooperation is growing annually. Economic relations are significantly improving and growing quantitatively, becoming more effective.

Leonid Brezhnev and Tsedenbal, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party, Chairman of the Presidium of the Great People's Khural of Mongolia, stressed at their recent meeting in Crimea.

While reviewing international problems the two leaders specifically pointed out that for decades now peace has been absent from the Middle East, with only short breathers in between wars.

The current tragedy of the Arab people of Palestine is a logical outcome of deals like the Camp David one. Neither separate agreements, nor banditry, violence and genocide as practised by Israel can secure lasting peace in the Middle East, they emphasized.

Given a sincere interest by both sides and an abandoning of prejudices and mistrust, there are no problems that round-table negotiations could not settle, the leaders of two countries emphasized.

For many years now, Svetlana has been doing aerobatics and she is a professional test pilot. During her travel into outer space, she was helped by her excellent physical fitness and self-control and she was not as excited as she well might have been on such an occasion. The reports she made were clear and businesslike. Commenting on the state of weightlessness, she said, "Everything is normal. It's just as I expected it would be."

On the second and third day, medical experiments were carried out, mainly undergone on Svetlana.

We know much less about the effect of outer space on women than on men's bodies. As is usual, tests were carried out on the cardiovascular system and technology.

There is a crew of five cosmonauts on board the Soviet orbital station Salyut-7. Apart from Anatoly Berezov, Valentin Lebedev, Leonid Popov, and Alexander Serebrov the "space house" has a female cosmonaut—Svetlana Savitskaya.

She has been assigned the duties of a Cosmonaut-Researcher, says Anatoly Yegorov, Doctor of Medical Sciences. During the course of a week, the crew is to perform geophysical, technical and medical experiments, with Savitskaya personally taking part in many.

The continuing war between Iran and Iraq is endangering the situation in the region and doubtlessly runs counter to the interests of both parties. The Soviet Union and Mongolia favour a political settlement of disputed problems between these neighbouring states, the two leaders stressed further.

The Soviet Union and the Mongolian People's Republic are of the opinion that the Middle East states can maintain their relations exclusively on the basis of principles of good-neighbourliness and mutually profitable cooperation.

Given a sincere interest by both sides and an abandoning of prejudices and mistrust, there are no problems that round-table negotiations could not settle, the leaders of two countries emphasized.

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Lady of the house in space

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the arterial pressure, and the functions of the vestibular apparatus. ECGs were recorded without load and after load on a velogrammeter. On the whole, the body's reactions to loads in weightlessness state are the same as on earth.

Svetlana Savitskaya carried out an electrocardiographic test on Flight Engineer Alexander Serebrov. Using French instruments, she examined the functioning of the heart and major blood vessels, particularly those feeding the brain.

Specialists noted the positive influence of a female presence on the crew. I think, stresses Yegorov, that in future such flights will become the rule rather than the exception. I do not doubt that by taking this flight Svetlana Savitskaya opens up opportunities for many more women in outer space—specialists in various fields of science and technology.

NEW SESSION

OF UN COMMITTEE ON DISARMAMENT

New York. A scheduled session of the UN Special Committee for a world disarmament conference opened recently at the UN headquarters. It is hoped that such a high-level conference involving all countries in the world may play an important part in mobilizing efforts for curbing the arms race and eliminating the danger of the calamities of war.

The Second Special Session on Disarmament of the UN General Assembly, which closed in July, has once again demonstrated the readiness of the Soviet Union and of other socialist countries for specific, practical steps in that field. The Soviet Union's commitment not to be the first to use nuclear weapons has attracted worldwide comment.

During the idea of a world disarmament conference, which originated from the Soviet Union, has been the broadest international support, practical preparations for it have made little progress in recent years.

The socialist and non-aligned states believe that the time has

long been ripe for taking specific

Svetlana Savitskaya • An unforeseen event during a walk through Moscow by the Soyuz T-9 crew.

FACTS AND EVENTS

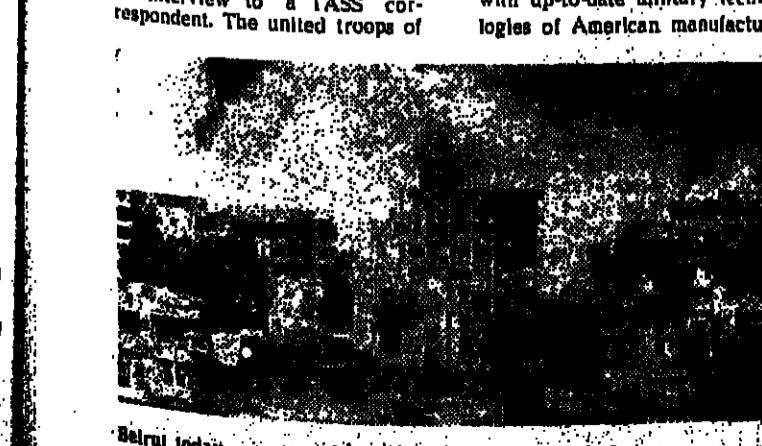
Helmut Schmidt raps sanctions

Genève. In an interview to the West German Norddeutscher Rundfunk radio station the West German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt has criticized the attempts by some circles in the West to start a "trade war" against the socialist countries. He also condemned the pressure being exerted by the American administration on its West European allies. If we are to subject free trade to political conditions, we shall be

(Continued on page 8)

CHINESE TAKE NEUTRAL STANCE

Peking. During his meeting here with the visiting UN Secretary-General Pérez de Cuellar, Huang Huai, Chinese Foreign Minister, said the Chinese would be neither the "American card" against the Soviet Union nor the "Soviet card" against the United States.



Berlin today.

THE WORLD

AMERICANS PROTEST

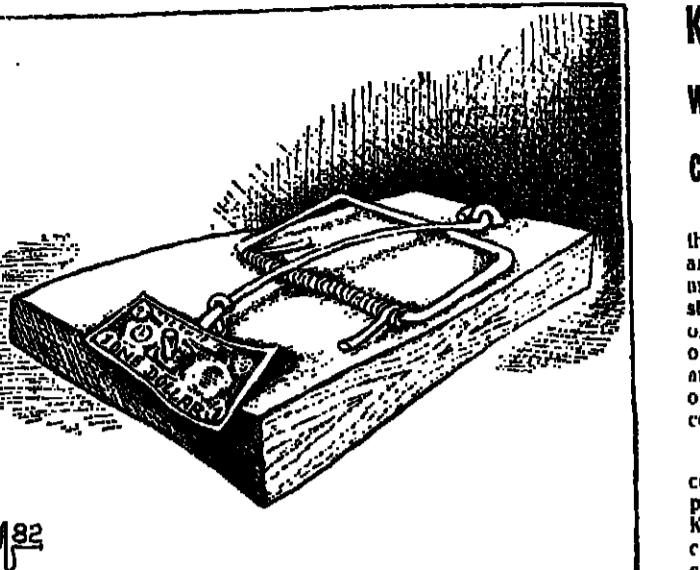
Washington. The Reagan masterminded Pentagon plans for "protracted" nuclear war with the USSR have aroused profound anxiety and sharp criticism from the American and the world public.

Such moves by the Reagan administration escalate the menace of a nuclear war, Representative J. Brown (Calif.) told Congress. Instead of taking urgent steps to scale down this menace, the White House is preparing for a "protracted" nuclear war obviously in the belief that they even could win it.

This policy does not stand up to serious criticism, Brown continued; the thing is that any

nuclear conflict would inevitably grow into a large-scale war, in which there can be no winners, he stressed.

His views were echoed by Democratic Congressman A. Gore, who thinks the best way of ensuring peace and international security is not to continue the arms race, but rather to embark on constructive peaceful talks designed to gradually reduce and ultimately to completely eliminate the nuclear war threat. In this respect, Gore continued, the Reagan administration should scrap its current strategy and move urgently to formulate and conclude important nuclear arms race limitation agreements with the Soviet Union.



US "economic aid".

Drawing by Leonid Belyakov

AFRO-ASIAN SOLIDARITY CONFERENCE

Delhi An International Conference on Afro-Asian Cooperation has opened here to discuss how to strengthen unity and cooperation between the developing countries faced with imperialist intrigues. It is being held on the initiative of the Indian Society for Afro-Asian Research.

Israel's aggression against Lebanon has graphically demonstrated the need for unity among the nations of Asia and Africa in the struggle against their common enemy—American imperialism and against Israeli Zionism acting as the former's policeman in the Middle East. Thus spoke M. H. Bag, a prominent Indian political leader and former Chief Justice of the Indian Supreme Court, in his speech to the conference. The Israeli aggressor, he said, encouraged by the

United States had behaved as atrociously as the Nazis did in the last war.

In the Middle East, the Zionists carry out a misanthropic policy of apartheid against the Arab peoples just like the South African racists do against the indigenous population in the south of Africa, said Sydney Moloff, representative of the African National Congress of South Africa. Backed by American imperialism the South African racists and the Israeli Zionists openly defy the decisions adopted by the United Nations, he stressed.

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My source told me the Israelis had been given the "green light" from Washington, said the former president adding that Israel's presence in Lebanon had complicated the situation in the Middle East still further.

QUOTATION OF THE DAY

The total debt of oilless developing countries now exceeds 450,000 million dollars, a colossal sum. This burden is becoming increasingly unbearable for these countries' economies.

From "L'Asie-Afrique" magazine, Paris

Alexander VLADOV

VIEWPOINT

REAGAN'S TAIWANESE REIN

Should the United States wish for "two Chinas", then there will be two Chinas; should they decide that this is insufficient, then there will be as many Chinas as they consider necessary — such is the logic that Peking will have to follow if it wishes to remain in Washington's favour. In any event, the recently signed American-Chinese communiqué reveals that the Washington administration reserves the right to provide military aid to Taiwan, while demanding that the Chinese leaders produce convincing evidence of their loyalty to the "strategic partnership" with the United States.

The bargaining, which lasted for a whole ten months, resulted in the Americans succeeding in cornering their partners by imposing on them the vague formula of a "gradual reduction" in arms shipments to Taiwan, according to which the shipments will be terminated when Taiwan has no more need for them. In other words, everything will depend on Peking's conduct: should it play ball with Washington, the need for such shipments could with time decrease. Meanwhile arms will be flowing to Taiwan on the scale that was in operation at the time that America and China established diplomatic relations in 1979.

Whatever interpretation Peking may choose to put on the above document, it is clear that Washington is pressing, with a fair degree of success, for its

partner to reconcile itself to American interference in its internal affairs. President Reagan did not mince his words when he announced to a press conference late in July that Chinese policy will continue to be dictated from the White House: they are perfectly aware of our position, and this position has not changed. We are not going to abandon our long-time friends and allies in Taiwan. By referring to the Chiang Kai-shek regime in Taiwan as "government", the president went beyond what was regarded as permissible. In public declarations made by Washington spokesmen since the signing of the Shanghai communiqué in 1972, in which America had pledged to recognize "one China",

Peking is still issuing warnings to the effect that unless the United States starts gradually scaling down its arms shipments to Taiwan, it could lose its patience, which would cost America dearly. One gets the impression, though, that such declarations are no longer taken seriously in Washington. There are reports that the American president is soon to notify Congress of the stepped-up joint production in Taiwan of F-4B fighters and other weapons. This is by no means surprising, since the major credo of American foreign policy is that right means might.

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In Peking they are now completing that the Reagan administration has been understanding China as a "strategic partner", sticking on two horses, of

once, all this despite the fact that the Chinese leaders have been stoutly following the anti-Soviet line. The odds are that even this is now not enough for the present American administration.

Hard as the Chinese leaders tried to obtain a Washington mandate of equal ally in the struggle against the USSR, they were only granted the role of "junior partner". Indeed, it would be naive to hope for more, when the American right-wingers now shaping American world strategy still view the Chinese People's Republic as "red China". Should they decide to change colour, we might well think differently: this approach already previously present in American-Chinese relations, is now clearly in evidence in Washington's policy.

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It could well be this that constitutes Peking's major blunder in seeking a rapprochement with the United States. Caught in the vice of Washington power-pressure diplomacy, the Chinese leaders have to admit the untenability of their hopes that "Reagan's anti-communist crusade" will not affect them. It is quite probable that they have now awakened to the fact that it is impossible to settle the "Taiwanese issue" with the Americans amicably; since the latter have made Taiwan figure prominently in East-West relations and have found it to be a valuable ideological asset in their present "direct confrontation" with the socialist countries.

The committees decided to submit all the relevant documents to the UN General Assembly, whose next session will also take up the Falklands (Malvinas) issue. And in this respect the Taiwanese remain unusual: the American government, which tested the "Aegis giant" it believed would protect the American people,

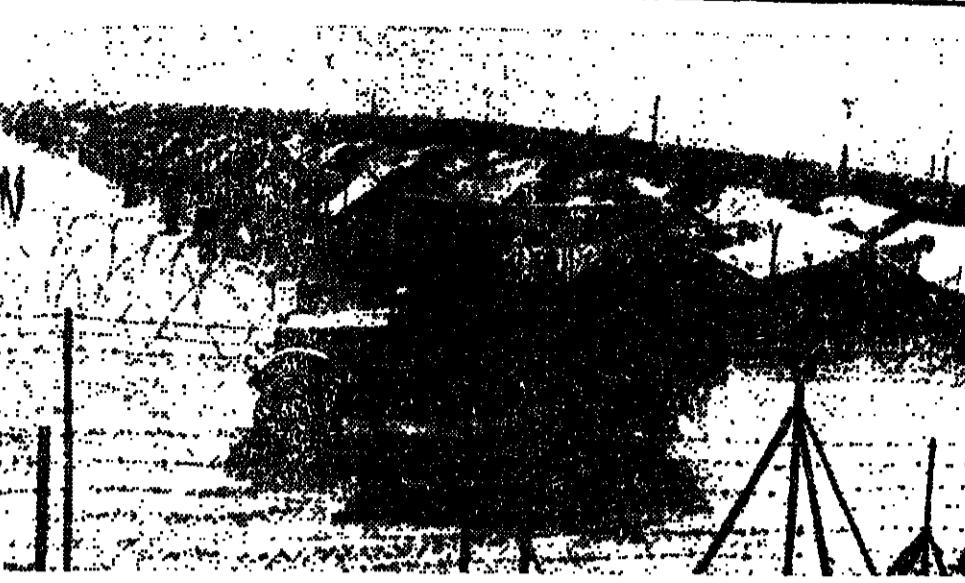
Kampuchea will not waver from its chosen path

Phnom Penh. Closing the third session of the Kampuchean National Assembly, its Chairman Chea Sim said that the strengthening and development of friendly ties and all-round cooperation with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries was one of the principles of his country's foreign policy.

The Assembly's deputies have condemned the reactionary plots to subvert the gains of the Kampuchean revolution, including the creation of the so-called Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea. The session has unanimously voted that the processes taking place in the country are irreversible and that nothing can dissuade the Kampuchean people from their chosen course — that of building a socialist society.

Photo AP-TASS

THE WORLD



Lebanon. Israeli concentration camp near Tyre. Here the aggressors keep over six thousand Arabs from the occupied parts of Lebanon in light tents enclosed within barbed wire.

Photo AP-TASS

JAPAN REVISES ITS TEXTBOOKS

Washington. The Pentagon is out to resealate the idea of a mammoth anti-missile defence system designed, according to the American press, to ensure the "survival" of American intercontinental ballistic missiles in nuclear war. Under a programme, code-named Swarmjet, each of the 500 launch sites for such missiles will be surrounded by some 20 anti-missiles. If need be, any of the 10,000 Swarmjet missiles could be on a strike

path within a few seconds, its authors claim. According to the American press, the first five years of this programme's implementation alone will cost US taxpayers 4,000 million dollars. Political analysts stress that by reviving the Swarmjet programme, the US strategists directly link the introduction of the new anti-missile defence system to their strategic nuclear forces with the possibility of winning a nuclear war.

HELmut SCHMIDT RAPS SANCTIONS

(Continued from page 11)

making a deliberate contribution to greater unemployment, he said.

H. Schmidt pointed to the American discriminatory sanctions against the construction of the East-West gas pipeline which have seriously affected the interests of a number of West European countries and to the differences between the United States and the EC countries over the restrictions imposed by Washington on steel imports from the Common Market.

The fact that the economy of the West is rolling downhill should not induce us to start a trade war against all and sundry, he stressed. All this is extremely reminiscent of the 1931-1932 period, he said.

FAALKANDS ISSUE STILL

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

New York. The UN Decolonization Committee met recently to discuss the issue of the Falklands (Malvinas) — claimed by both Argentina and Britain, with most members favouring an end to their colonial status and a negotiated solution of the conflict.

Colombian representative G. Garcia-Moreno, said he believed the US had enough authority to make any such talks a success. He stressed his country's right to sovereignty over the islands. According to Panamanian delegate C. Ozores Ty-palos, the conflict is rooted in Britain's illegal seizure of the Malvinas back in 1833. London's attempts, he said, to preserve colonial relations in the South Atlantic, had led to the recent armed clash.

The committees decided to submit all the relevant documents to the UN General Assembly, whose next session will also take up the Falklands (Malvinas) issue. And in this respect the Taiwanese remain unusual: the American government, which tested the "Aegis giant" it believed would protect the American people,

PENTAGON'S NEW PLANS

Tokyo. Japan has ignored China's protests over the revision of school textbooks which no longer mention the Japanese aggression against China in the 1930s and the 40s.

Addressing the Foreign Relations Committee of the Council of the House in the Japanese parliament, A. Kuchi, head of the Asian department of the Japanese Foreign Ministry, said that the Japanese government had notified China that the problem of textbook revision is an internal matter and as such should be decided by Japan.

This revision of school textbooks, which has been undertaken by the Japanese ruling circles in order to whitewash the aggression by the Japanese military against Asian countries including China, has aroused a wave of indignation among the Chinese people. During the years of occupation, Japanese military brutally murdered millions of Chinese. Influenced by these sentiments, Peking, which until quite recently encouraged the military aspirations of the Japanese ruling circles, has protested officially to Japan about the revision of textbooks. Confirming its desire to have this demand fulfilled, China has consistently refused an entrance visa to the Japanese Education Minister.

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However, from the statement given by a spokesman for the Japanese Foreign Ministry, it becomes clear that the Japanese authorities must have come to the conclusion that in a situation where Peking is seeking to develop political and economic relations with the West, it will put up with the Japanese refusal to fulfil this demand.

BASED ON COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY

An installation for cathode-ray welding, designed in the GDR, is provided with a controller capable of optimizing the process. A general-purpose processor used in the system makes the system more efficient and decreases energy consumption. Thanks to its increased power, the new installation can now weld steel pieces up to 80 mm thick.

PEOTROL BOOSTER

For several years now, scientists from different countries have been trying to find more efficient fuel for cars. This problem has also been tackled by scientists from socialist countries. Thus, Hungarian chemical engineers, in every finger of which a mini-sensor transmitting signals to the sound analyzer of a computer, have come up with a new substance they call "biokin". Tests have shown that its addition to petrol improves combustion and thus saves a lot of money.

HOW LONG IS A METRE?

The metre was determined in 1960 as 1,650,761.73 wavelengths of the krypton-86 orange radiation. Physicists offer now a more exact definition: the path travelled by light in a vacuum during one 299,701,458th fraction of a second. Next October the formula will be discussed by the International Bureau of Weights and Measures to be recommended for approval at the General Conference of Weights and Measures in October, 1983 in Paris.

PEOPLE

The US President's wife Nancy Reagan is reported to be on a tour of orphanages and hospitals in order to give consolation and encouragement. One of the accompanying party is keeping a stock of paper handkerchiefs in case Mrs Reagan should shed tears. However, when she was told in a children's hospital in Los Angeles that if the President does not plan expenditures for such establishments, the hospital would have to be closed down, her eyes were dry. I am here to talk to the children and not about budget plans, she said.

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OF INTEREST

Let's fly without wings

Canadian inventor Jean St. Germain's dream of a free flight in his new fall-ground attraction. In order to achieve this he had to build a hollow tower the size of a large grain elevator. In the basement, he placed a powerful Diesel engine and the propeller of a DC-3 airliner. The current of air generated by this power plant is enough to hold a grown-up hovering in the air. A special protective suit must be worn while flying in this

FROM the SOVIET PRESS

THE MEANING OF THE SOVIET INITIATIVES

The Soviet initiatives put forward at the Second Special Session of the UN General Assembly on Disarmament have gained wide international support, PRAVDA writes. The Soviet Union's pledge not to be the first to use nuclear weapons is a practical step, and were the other nuclear powers to take similar steps we would be getting closer to an actual prohibition of nuclear weapons.

This is realized fully by belligerent imperialist circles which have set themselves the aim of upsetting the present strategic balance in the world and of obtaining military superiority over the countries of the socialist community by spurring on the arms race, especially the nuclear arms race. They, therefore, try, the newspaper says, to belittle the importance of our initiatives in every way, describing it as a propaganda move that opens new opportunities for the realistic militarization or reduction of nuclear armaments. Such allegations are utterly false. The initiatives taken by the Soviet Union are meant to increase trust between states and to create a favourable atmosphere for discussion and solution of concrete questions concerning disarmament and the end of the arms race. In its memorandum, submitted to the Session, the Soviet Union suggested a series of measures to deliver mankind from the threat of nuclear annihilation.

AMERICANS DESIGN NEW TOXIC AGENTS

A hundred pigs and a thousand rabbits have arrived at an American military laboratory where new toxic weapons systems are designed near the city of Aberdeen, according to an article in LITERATURNAYA GAZETA. It also points out that the natural gas to be used in experiments, the cost of which is estimated to be about a million dollars, 2,000 various lethal chemical gases have been produced and put into storage here. Another depot houses biological weapons — toxins of anencephalytis and those of smallpox, tuberculosis, cholera, anthrax, brucellosis and typhoid fever.

The newspaper notes that the head of the laboratory, Colonel Walter Kosterman made a public admission in summer 1981 that his subordinates were carrying out biological programmes important for the defence effort.

At first the Aborigines used hunting-dog puppies to test their toxins. Today, they are using innocent rabbits and pigs for their newest toxin called Lewisite, to see how effective it can be in killing large masses of people.

WEST TAKES NON-PRODUCTIVE STANCE

The "new" proposals made by the West at the end of the twenty-seventh session of the Vienna talks over reductions in conventional forces and armaments in Central Europe can only make these talks more complicated and protracted, according to the NEW TIMES weekly. It points out that this tendency is particularly prominent in the issue concerning the rate at which the reductions are to take place. Whereas in the past, the West proposed that these reductions should be carried out in two stages in a period of between four and five years, the NATO countries have changed their proposals (for the ninth time!). They propose now that the reductions in the strength of military personnel should be drawn out over a seven-year period, in four stages. This non-productive Western approach is also conspicuous in that it drops the reduction of armaments by the two sides in Central Europe altogether. This means a deliberate exclusion from the agenda of one of the most important mutually agreed provisions, within which it is impossible to reduce the military potentials of the two sides in the heart of Europe.

WORLD OCEAN IN WASHINGTON'S STRATEGY

The composition and structure of the US Navy, the nature of the American military-political and naval doctrine, primarily the administration's practical moves in world affairs, including the World Ocean, are all predictable evidence that in seeking to advance its imperial designs, the USA is extending its aggressive plans and the arms race to the oceans also, making them threatened areas and scenes of military preparation as they place lethal arms in ever growing numbers there, emphasizes the WORLD ECONOMICS AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS magazine.

Present US policy, it continues, is obviously aimed at upsetting the existing military-strategic parity between the USA and the USSR, to secure supremacy at sea, and use naval power to exert overt pressure on unfriendly governments and regimes. Acting as a self-styled guardian of security of sea routes, including areas of the busiest international trade traffic, the US is thus seeking to pressure its allies and compell them to follow its foreign policy line, simultaneously acquiring more leverage on their economic positions, the magazine points out.

The secret of long life

The "circular town", an ingenious complex encircling the Sabah path in Peking is noted, apart from its architectural merit, and old age, being built during the 17th-18th centuries, for scores of 800-year-old pine trees growing there right on the stones of the palace, squares even though the stones lie close together. There is a 100-metre long, a 100-metre wide, a 100-metre high, a 100-metre deep, a 100

A TOWN BECOMES A STAGE



Actors from the Jelgava Amateur Theatre taking part in the carnival

procession. ● An orchestra playing folk music.

Recently a theatrical festival was held on a large scale in the 700-year-old Latvian city of Kuldiga. The shady parks and old crooked streets, the carved terraces of its one-storey houses and whimsically shaped little yards and squares served as both its stage and auditorium. The annual festival has drawn the best amateur theatre companies from all over Latvia. Steel-workers from Liepaja, farmers from Cēsis and workers and schoolchildren from Riga were invited as actors here.

The life-giving force of the arts, and their beauty is personified by Spisols—the heroine of a drama written by the well-esteemed Lat-

vian poet Janis Rainis, and the actors take their oaths in her name. The audiences came not only from the town itself and neighbouring villages, but from far and wide. The actors paraded through the streets of the city in a colourful carnival procession. There were meetings between characters from popular comedies written by the Latvian classic Rudolfs Blaumanis, and from the Revolutionary Lettish Rifles who have become a legend; an Oriental princess from "The Arabian Nights", walked side by side with Shakespeare's Juliet, and Pepito Long Stocking came to terms with Pinocchio. Each company showed a small excerpt from its most favourite play.

FISH FROM DESERT PONDS

Fish-breading is a new branch of the economy rapidly gaining strength in Turkmenia. Ost the Karakum Canal near Ashkhabad, the completion of the final pond has increased the surface of the farm's reservoirs to 900 hectares. The farm's fishermen haul nearly two tonnes of fish from each pond.

Every year, three and half thousand tonnes of fish are caught in Turkmenia's inland lakes, rivers and ponds.

IRRIGATION OF ALPINE FIELDS

The summer floods caused by the thawing of glaciers in the Tien Shan Mountains did not affect the rivers in the Chulu Valley, as seven reservoirs were built to collect the excess water in the foothills of the Kirghizia Range.

All the excess water will be stored and then gradually used as required on the farmland there. A total of twenty reservoirs, built on sites useless for farming, can store about 15 million cubic metres of water. This will enable the local farmers to boost harvests in the area of several thousand hectares.

In Kirghizia, 90 per cent of agricultural output is produced on irrigated land, therefore man-made reservoirs play a very important role in farming. 270 big Alpine lakes provide water for farmland yielding up to five tonnes of wheat and barley and about 50 tonnes of vegetables per hectare. The Tien Shan beet fields are the most productive in the country.

Further expansion of irrigation projects will enable the farmers to employ another 75 thousand hectares of dry land for farming.

NEW UNIT PUT THROUGH ITS PACES

The Novgorod gas compressor station in Northern Russia has completed tests on a 25 MW gas-pumping units made at the Nevsky Zavod plant in Leningrad. The new unit will pump natural gas from Western Siberia to the European part of the USSR via 1,420 mm gas pipelines under pressure of 75-100 atmospheres.

Round the Soviet Union

THE EXPERIENCE GAINED IN THE CONSTRUCTION OF TUNNELS FOR THE BAIKAL-AMUR RAILWAY IS THE MAIN THEME OF AN ALL-UNION SEMINAR WHICH HAS OPENED IN THE TOWN OF NIZHNEANGARSK, IN THE SOUTHERN PART OF EASTERN SIBERIA. The delegates attending the seminar, leading underground railway builders, scientists and designers, are to visit six railway tunnels in the north of Buryatia, where they will be told about the advanced methods used in the construction of these tunnels, methods which will later be employed on a wide scale throughout the country.

A CENSUS OF CHOICE TREES HAS BEEN COMPLETED OVER AN AREA OF MORE THAN ONE MILLION HECTARES IN THE FORESTS OF THE ZHITOMIR REGION, IN THE UKRAINE. The areas selected will serve as a source for seeds and saplings for growing highly productive varieties of fruit. A major programme is in progress for improving the quality of oaks, pines, spruces, and larches. Successful selection has speeded up the procurement of industrial timber.

ANCIENT RUSSIAN BELS ARE ON DISPLAY AT AN EXHIBITION WHICH HAS OPENED IN THE PORT OF IL'YICHOVSK, ON THE BLACK SEA COAST. On show are more than a hundred and fifty items ranging from the miniature bells of troikas, to alarm bells weighing many hundred kilos. Cast by masters from Valday, Kostroma, Pavlov and Yelabuga, these bells are evidence of the talent and inventiveness of folk craftsmen.

Uzbek scholar works by request of UNESCO

the daughter of Babur—Gulbadan Begum,

The request of UNESCO to participate in the publication of "Humayun-name", addressed to Sabokhat Azimzhanova was not fortuitous. She is the author of the translation into Uzbek of the most interesting literary monument of the first quarter of the 16th century. Working on the translation Azimzhanova referred to the original manuscript of the work, kept in Britain. In the Tashkent edition of "Humayun-name", the publication which will be timed to coincide with its 500th anniversary, UNESCO appealed to Sabokhat Azimzhanova. She was asked about the advanced methods used in the construction of these tunnels, methods which will later be employed on a wide scale throughout the country.

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ENTERTAINMENT

BOLSHOI BALLET SUCCESS IN ITALY

The Bolshoi Ballet Company has completed its tour of Italy. During its 40-day tour, the Bolshoi dancers gave 22 performances in five Italian cities.

Two ballets were performed based on Shakespeare's plays, "Romeo and Juliet" and "Macbeth". The audiences were particularly enthusiastic about "Romeo and Juliet". In Verona, the city of Shakespeare's hero, the Bolshoi Symphony Orchestra was also touring the country during the same period and gave concert performances. Particularly memorable was the concert held in the town of Busseto where the composer Verdi was born. It is hard to imagine the atmosphere in the hall, and what an ovation the audience gave when it was announced that the orchestra would play the overture to the opera "Aida" as an encore.

The Italian press recognized the talent of both young performers and aged soloists and had much praise for the Bolshoi corps de ballet. High marks were awarded to the brilliant choreography by Yu. Grigorovich, and the skill and talent of the set designers for the two ballets (S. Vassiladze and V. Levantov) was emphasized, with particular reference to their knowledge of the epoch, and the exquisite colours of the costumes.

After the main programme of the tour has been completed, a group of Bolshoi soloists gave a concert in Malta.

LAST PERFORMANCE THREE CENTURIES AGO



Scenes from the "Rostov Action".

Photos by Vladimir Shevchenko

The Moscow Chamber Musical Theatre has started off its season with an unusual production, "Rostov Action". It is based on music and the text of an opera written by Dmitry Rostovsky, a prominent figure in the culture of 17th-century Russia.

Our theatre is often called a sort of a stage laboratory, says Boris Pokrovsky, the director. We try to present new contemporary works as well as little known works of the past to our audience. For this reason we turned to an old Russian opera which was performed for the last time three centuries ago.

What we are trying to emphasize is that the traditions of Russian opera were founded much earlier than is normally thought.

It was impossible to stage "Rostov Action", an opera per-



FACTS and EVENTS

Shows. Works by Moscow graphic artists N. Blagovolin, V. Shmokhin and S. Miklashevich were among 20 works entered by Soviet artists for an international easel graphic art show in Norway. Noted Soviet graphic artist I. Bogosko is on the international jury.

Theatres. At the 23rd International Festival of Theatres for Children held in the Yugoslav city of Sibenik, this country was represented by the Lenin Komsomol Young Spectators' Theatre, from the republic of Latvia. Among the pieces shown by the theatre was "Chukokkala", based on a work by Kornel Chukovsky. Local press noted the high professional standards of the company which was awarded a festival diploma.

Exhibitions. An exhibition of crafts from 13 socialist countries, including the USSR, has opened in the town of Erfurt, in the GDR. On display are 1,600 masterpieces selected at elimination contests held in the individual countries. For the first time in the history of the exhibition works of the art entered by artists from Kampuchea, Vietnam, Laos, North Korea and Mongolia are on view.

The exhibition will be accompanied by a major lecture on the theory of the plastic arts, in which experts from 13 countries will take part.

ALL-UNION SCULPTURE SHOW FOR 1983

Next year Moscow will host the first ever nationwide sculpture exhibition, said art critic Chernov, first deputy director of the exhibition committee, aiming to promote the arts and to acquaint the public with the Soviet school of sculpture.

There are also a sauna bath, a cinema auditorium, and other comforts.

During this year, Rauma Re-

poli is to sell this country machines for the timber industry, processes for the chemical industry, cargo ships and station-

ITALIAN FIRM ON SOVIET MARKET

Sila Viscosa is now taking part in two projects to build chemical enterprises in the Soviet Union. Elio Lelli, head of Sila Viscosa's Moscow office, told an MNI correspondent. Last year, adjustments and preparations for commissioning of the factory in Chirchik in Central Asia which will eventually produce 180 thousand tonnes of rayon a year. The 80-million-dollar plant for this factory has been supplied by Sila Viscosa, a well-known Italian firm.

Activities of equipment from Italy have begun for a factory in the town of Novo-Polotsk in Belarus, which will ultimately manufacture 34 thousand tonnes of acrylic fibre a year.

Elio Lelli recalled that Sila Viscosa appeared for the first time on the Soviet market in the 1960s. In the post-war period these relations were built on a long-term basis and over the years Sila Viscosa has exported to this country sets of equipment for 36 chemical factories. Sila Viscosa regularly fills in orders from Soviet foreign trade associations for the delivery of chemical products, artificial fibre, and for different types of equipment. In turn, it buys Soviet raw materials. Recently, the two sides have been concentrating on such types of business links as clearance deals, said Elio Lelli.

ship. 26—at 6 p.m.; 27—at 10 a.m. and 6 p.m.

DRAUGHTS USSR Central Chess Club (14 Gogolevsky Blvd). 25-27—Match for world champion title in Polish draughts. 4 p.m. (all days).

RACING Hippodrome (22 Begovaya St). 25 and 27—Racing and trotting. 6 p.m. (both days).

WEATHER

August 24-27

FOOTBALL Torpedo Stadium (4 Vostochnaya St). 27—Torpedo (Moscow) vs Dynamo (Kiev). 7 p.m.

BASKETBALL Lenin Central Stadium (outdoor grounds). 27—USSR men's and women's Cup. Semifinals. 2 p.m.

ICE HOCKEY Krylya Sovetov Palace of Sport (10 Tolbukhina St). 25 and 26—Friendly meetings. Krylya Sovetov vs Spartak. 6.45 p.m. (both days).

WEATHER

August 24-27

In Moscow, city and region, short showers are expected at the beginning and end of the period, with temperatures in the daytime ranging from 17°-20°C and later to 23°-26°C. S and WS wind, 5-8 mps.

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Autumn is approaching in the northern regions of the European part of the USSR. Temperatures on the Kola Peninsula and in Arkhangelsk Region stand at 7°-10°C.

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